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Examination

Of Mr. Francis Devany, High Sheriff of the Colony of Liberia, before a Committee of Congress, on the 26th and 27th of May, 1830.

WE published in our number for April, the Report of the Committee of the House of Representatives, to whom was referred the memorial of the American Colonization Society, addressed to that Body and to the Senate of the United States. This Committee consisted of the Hon. C. F. Mercer, Mr. Everett, of Massachusetts, Mr. Rose, Mr. Williams, Mr. Vance, Mr. Denny and Mr. Kincaid. Just before the adjournment of Congress, Mr. Francis Devany, one of the earliest, most intelligent and respectable settlers in Liberia, who has, for some time, held the office of High Sheriff in the Colony, arrived in Washington, and, as he had resided in Africa for more than seven years, had discharged faithfully and usefully, the duties of several responsible offices, and had been and continued to be engaged in extensive trade, it was deemed important, by Mr. Mercer, Chairman of the Committee just mentioned, to receive his testimony, respecting the geography, climate, soil, natural and civil History, municipal Government, manners, productions commerce, navigation, arts and improvements of the Colony of Free coloured Persons in Liberia.

The Committee, together with several Senators and Members of the House, invited to attend on the occasion, met in the capitol on the morning of the 26th of May, and the replies of Mr. Devany to the various questions proposed by the Chairman, and other Gentlemen of the Committee, excited so much interest, that the examination was continued until after the Meeting of the House of Representatives summoned the members to their seats, when an adjournment took place until 9 o'clock the next morning. At that time a much larger number attended than on the preceding day, and through the kindness of Mr. Stansbury, Reporter to

the House, we are enabled to present the following statement as comprising, briefly, the testimony given by Mr. Devany, in reply to the interrogatories proposed to him.

It should here, perhaps, be stated, that Mr. Devany, was born in South Carolina, a slave, the property of Langdon Cheves, Esq. formerly Speaker of the House of Representatives; that after acquiring his freedom, he practised the trade of a sail maker in the employment of Mr. Fortin, a man of colour well known in Philadelphia; that more than seven years ago, he embarked for Liberia; that, while employed for a few months by the Colonial Agent, to navigate a small public Vessel to different parts of the coast, for the purpose of obtaining supplies for the early settlers at Monrovia, he was enabled to acquire the sum of \$200; that with this, he commenced trade, and from sales made on his own account and as consignee, of others, he has, in less than six years, amassed a property valued by him at from 15 to 20,000 dollars. Mr. Devany states that his sales in a single year had amounted to 25,000 dollars. The Brig Liberia in which he took passage with his family for Philadelphia, to visit his own and his wife's relatives, brought from the Colony on account of the owners a Cargo valued at 20,000 dollars.

Mr. Devany stated, in reply to queries put to him by the Hon. Mr. Mercer, Judge Spencer, and others, that the Colonists labour under very serious inconvenience, for want of a National Flag, under which to sail. A number of vessels are owned by them, which might, and would, be engaged in commerce to this country, but which are laid up at present for want of a Flag. Mr. Devany himself owns one, which cost him a thousand dollars. Another Colonist owns a vessel that cost 6,000 dollars. Both these valuable vessels are now laid up and going to decay, as the owners do not consider it safe to venture them at sea, under existing circumstances. Besides these, there are five or six others owned in the Colony, of smaller value. These are engaged in a coasting trade of very confined extent: the greatest distance to which they venture to go, is as far as Sierra Leone. The object of their apprehension is not the hostility of the European powers, but the pirates who infest those seas. The British and French have both behaved in the most friendly manner toward the Colonists. The French sloop of war Dragon, captured one of these pirates, and carried her into Goree, whence she was sent home to France, and condemned. The British sloop of war North Star, captured another, but gave her up again, for want of suf-

ficient evidence for her condemnation. These pirates consist chiefly of Spaniards, some of whom sail in American vessels. When one of these strange sails approaches, the Colonists feel some apprehension, and immediately resort to the Fort, and put themselves under arms. They have six volunteer companies in uniform, beside militia, amounting in all to about 500 effective men. The Colony had not been attacked since the time, at which Mr. Devany arrived, which he attributes to the fact, that the hostile natives perceived that the Colony had been strengthened, by a reinforcement of its numbers, and was in possession of cannon and other means of defence. Efforts were making to increase these means, but the Colonists had but little money to devote to that object. They have a stone Fort, called Fort Stockton, which was repaired by the late Dr. Randall, and is about two-thirds finished. It is of stone, and the walls ten feet high.— But as the platforms for the guns are not yet finished, it is at present able to work but two small eighteen cannonades. The stone of which it is built, and which is commonly employed in erecting the houses of the Colonists, is a blue granite, very hard and solid. Besides this, they have another species of stone much softer, and impregnated with iron. This latter is employed in Sierra Leone, almost exclusively; but at Monrovia it is but partially used, for window sills, chimney pieces, &c. They get lime in abundance, from shells on the Junk river. It is of the best quality, and makes good hard finished walls.— Wood being plenty, they have all the building materials they can desire, with the exception of nails and iron work. The harbour is counted the best on that coast, and is seldom without a vessel. There are 9 feet water on the bar, and 12 to 16 feet on the inside of it. Mr. Devany, in 1824, was in command of a Colonial vessel for 6 months.

The prevailing morals of the Colonists are good. Mr. Devany had witnessed but one fight among them during his residence there, and that was occasioned by a sort of political quarrel with a coloured man from Sierra Leone, who, partaking of the jealous spirit which prevails among some persons there, had spoken in an abusive manner of the American Colony and its Government. Larcenies, under the value of 5 shillings, are punished by fine. Those above that sum, by imprisonment and

whipping. No instance of capital crime had yet occurred.— Where the laws of the Colony are silent, resort is had to the laws of the United States, so that no crime can, through any deficiency of that kind, be committed with impunity. One case had occurred in which a Court of Inquiry was held, upon a Colonist charged with having fired a gun in one of the Kroo towns, by which a man was accidentally shot. The matter, however, was compounded, by paying a fine of a hundred bars to the friends of the deceased. (A bar is a technical term, signifying a quantity of goods of any kind, to the value of 25 cents first cost.) The courts, when sitting, are well attended. Witnesses are brought up by a process of subpoena, as in the United States. Some instances of Intemperance have occurred, but the habit is confined to two persons only, and does not go to such an extent, as to be of serious injury to the families of the individuals, who are blacksmiths. They have three churches, frame buildings, one of them with a steeple. One belongs to the Baptists, another to the Methodists, and one not yet finished to the Presbyterians. Divine service is attended three times on Sunday, and also on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The Sunday schools are attended by many of the native children. All who can be decently clad, are in the habit of attending.— But such as are not clothed will not come. The natives in the neighbourhood of the Colony are adopting our mode of dress; the men wearing pantaloons, and the women a cloth garment, covering nearly their whole person. They were formerly but very slightly covered, but now females in that situation will not pass through the town, but take a circuitous route to avoid observation. No dancing is practised; the religious part of the community having prevailed in discouraging it. Several of the neighbouring tribes have voluntarily put themselves under the laws of the Colony, and sought its protection. On the death of old King Peter, a celebrated chief in the neighbourhood, his head man, called Long Peter, made an effort to usurp the government of the tribe. But they fled to the Colony for protection; in consequence of which delegates were sent among them, and the matter was compromised, by appointing Long Peter as head man, but not as King. The chief acquiesced in this arrangement, and the people were satisfied and returned to

their employment. The natives of this tribe have adopted our dress, and many of the children attend the schools in the Colony.

A very active trade is carried on at Monrovia. A Colonist, by the name of Waring, will have sold goods this year to the amount of \$70,000. Mr. Devany's own sales amount to between 24 and \$25,000. Being asked how much he considered himself as worth, he replied that he computed his property at \$20,000, and would not be willing to take that sum for it. He has been in the Colony seven years, and had but little property when he went there. Coffee is very abundant in the higher and more rocky grounds: on sandy soil it is not so plenty.—The produce of the plants is very various; from some trees enough may be gathered to fill a pocket handkerchief of the largest size, while others will not yield more than half a pound. It resembles the coffee of Java, being white and of large grain. There is another kind, of smaller grain, but this is but little used. The Colony as yet has not made coffee an article of export, the Colonists not having had time to engage in the regular cultivation of the plant. They gather, however, enough for their own consumption. They export dye woods, of different kinds, hides, ivory, palm oil, and rice. The French, in particular, are desirous of trading in the last article. Provisions are plenty, and in order to keep up the native trade they are sometimes taken in greater quantities than can be consumed. The traders refuse none that is brought in. The Colonists in general are well satisfied with their situation. The exceptions are very few, and consist of some old women and persons of very weak capacity, such as the Colonists would be glad to get rid of. On the tables in Monrovia may be found beef, mutton, fish, fowls, ducks, and occasionally a turkey or a roast pig, together with the fruits of the country, which are very various. Coffee and tea are used for breakfast. Being asked whether any of the Colonists had become so dissatisfied as to remove, he replied that one or two had done so. One in particular had returned in the same vessel with him-self. This was a coloured man by the name of Hunt, who had been originally a slave, but was liberated in Richmond; and another by the name of Wilson, whose character was very exceptionable. He had left a wife in the United States, and on coming to Monrovia was desirous of marrying

another woman. Being prevented from doing so, he had gone to Sierra Leone, where he married, his first wife being still living.

The health of the Colony is, in general, good. From ten days to six weeks after their first arrival, strangers are liable to attacks of ague and fever, but after that time they are usually healthy. Mr. Devany had travelled up the St. Paul's river till he came to a series of falls extending in all about 10 or 12 miles, in which space the water often falls perpendicularly 20, 30, and 50 feet. About 60 or 80 miles up that river, lie the dominions of King Boatswain. The intermediate country is finely wooded, abounding with valuable ship timber. They have a species of oak, which is an ever-green, and grows to the size of five or six feet diameter at the stump, rising from 60 to 100 and 110 feet without a limb. They have, besides, a species of poplar, of a reddish colour, which works well, and is employed by joiners for the inside work of houses. They have not the disease of the worm which prevails on *Cape Coast*. Water that is taken from a running stream, in the sun, abounds *there*, with a small species of worm, which, being swallowed, occasions a distressing and fatal disease. Water, in tanks, is not liable to be thus infested. But at Cape Montserado, nothing of this kind is known; nor is the lumber of the houses liable, as in some parts of Africa, to be destroyed by ants. There is a clay, however, which the ants, called by the natives "Bug a Bug," use in building their nests, and which is also sometimes used by the poorer inhabitants in plastering their houses, and which contains an insect that does eventually destroy the timber. They have some timber which is never known to contain a worm, though it may have lain upon the ground ten years. They have a species of teak similar to that in Brazil; also a brimstone wood, much resembling mahogany, but of a lighter colour. They have the great ant of Africa, which, however, instead of an annoyance, proves serviceable in clearing their houses from vermin of every description. A band of these formidable insects will attack and master a living rat; and having put him to death will divide his body into small pieces, and marshalling themselves in array will carry every particle of the spoil out of the house to their nests.

They give the master of one of their schools a salary of

§450. This he did not consider sufficient, and engaged in business as public surveyor; in consequence of which the school had somewhat declined, but they had the prospect of getting another teacher. They are desirous of having white men,* competently educated, to teach their schools: in which capacity only, and in that of clergymen, white persons are allowed to reside in the Colony. A newspaper is published in Monrovia, by Mr. Russwurm, a coloured man, and a graduate of a college in Maine. He published a paper some time since in New York. He has now upon his list between 2 and 300 subscribers.

Mr. Devany had visited the Colony of Sierra Leone, but found it by no means in so prosperous a condition as their own. He attributed the difference to the residence of European traders among them, who had engrossed the commerce to themselves, and treated the coloured inhabitants with little more respect than they would receive in Carolina or Georgia; not unfrequently ordering them to be whipped. In consequence of this, the spirits of the people were depressed, and numbers of them would gladly resort to the American Colony. But this is strongly discouraged, as they are not considered good settlers, and in several instances had created trouble. Being asked how the Agents of the Government treated the Liberian Colonists, Mr. Devany replied, "perfectly well, entirely to their satisfaction." They placed them on a footing of perfect equality, as much as if no distinction of colour existed. The people had great respect for the agents, but still felt themselves at the head of their own society. Much activity and emulation prevail; each settler endeavouring to push his own fortune by all proper and honourable means. If one builds himself a comfortable house this season, his neighbour will endeavour to have as good a one the next. But this competition is attended with no ill will. A plat of the town is drawn and laid off in lots, and when new settlers arrive they employ a lottery to fix their several situations; each being allowed in the town a quarter of an acre, and 15 acres in its neighbourhood, which he is at liberty to cultivate for himself. Some who wish to become farmers,

*White men are exposed to great danger from the climate; it is much better to educate coloured people in this country, and send them to the Colony.

and settle at a distance, are allowed small farms of 50 acres. The soil is cultivated with ease. Ploughs are not yet introduced. They have some mules which they brought from the Cape De Verds. There are also a few oxen; but these, not having been early broken, do not work to advantage. The late lamented Mr. Cary, however, had a yoke which he broke himself, and which worked very well. They had had some horses, but these not being well managed, had died. Others, however, could readily be procured at the Rio Pongas. The climate is mild and uniform; the thermometer never being lower than 68° , nor higher than 88° , save perhaps one day in a season, when it has been known to rise to 91 degrees. There is a constant sea-breeze, and Mr. Devany had seen the weather quite cool; not cold enough however to produce frost. The houses have no chimneys except to the kitchens; but it is customary, in the cooler weather, to use small furnaces with charcoal. Many of the houses are built of stone, others of logs, weather-boarded. Some of these are painted white, with green Venetian blinds. They have gardens abounding with vegetables, and various native fruits. There is a species of sour orange, that seems indigenous to the soil, being found in abundance. The seed of the sweet orange has also been brought from Sierra Leone, and succeed well. The tamarind is also plentiful, and the Colonists have now received seeds from America, and are endeavouring to raise various West India fruits. The pine-apple is common, and they have a species of cherry growing in large clusters like grapes. The palm-tree abounds, and is of great value; palm-oil is worth from 5 to 6 cents a pound. They take it in trade from the country people at from 8 to 10 cents a gallon, and the gallon contains from 7 to 8 pounds.

King Boatswain, above mentioned, offered to place one of his children with Mr. Devany. The natives appear to like the colonial habits, and readily fall in with them; their chief difficulty arises from the want of a mutual knowledge of each other's language. Natives, when reduced to slavery as a punishment for crimes, are considered as permanently degraded, and find difficulty in returning if they obtain their liberty.— But those who are taken prisoners in war are not considered as degraded in the least, and are often ransomed at a great price.

Many innocent persons are sent to slavery under the pretext of crime, but in reality with a view to sordid gain; the captains of the slave ships instigating the people of a neighbourhood to bring "palavers," that is, criminal accusations against each other, and having sentence pronounced, that they may thus make up their cargo. The slave-trade is not suffered to exist within the limits of the Colony, nor is it to be found within a space of from 45 to 50 miles on each side of Cape Montserado. The whole distance from Cape Mount to Little Bassa enjoys this favoured exemption. Any person attempting to engage in this traffic within the Colony, is seized and imprisoned. Mr. Devany left several natives in prison who had been charged with this offence. The crime is made piracy by their law, and none of the Colonists have ever been concerned in it. Whispers did prevail with respect to one individual, but no proof has been adduced. Mr. Devany being asked, in conclusion, whether, if the Colony should be recognized as independent by the United States and the European Governments, they had any fears as to being able to defend themselves from the natives and all others? He replied, with great promptitude, that the Colony is not in a state of complete defence; the United States' guns need remounting, and the battery repairing: if this was done, they would not have the least apprehension on that subject; and that to be thus acknowledged, was the general desire of the Colonists.



Connecticut State Colonization Society.

The third Report of this institution we have just received, and now publish, entire. We need say nothing to recommend it to public attention, as its merits are too obvious and too striking to be unobserved or unappreciated. At the Annual Meeting of the Society in New Haven, May 18th, 1830, it was

Resolved, That the clergy of the various Religious denominations in this State, be respectfully invited to present the interests of the American Colonization Society to their respective congregations on the Fourth of July next, and to solicit contributions in its behalf."

The officers of the Society, have adopted energetic measures for securing the object of this Resolution, and we are too well

acquainted with the character of the clergy and churches of Connecticut, to believe that any appeal to their moral feelings in behalf of Africa and her afflicted children will prove ineffectual. Nor can we well imagine, how (unless by miraculous Agency the horrors of the African slave trade, and the indescribable miseries which it produces could be brought, in reality, before their eyes) a more eloquent appeal could be made to them than that contained in this Report. The receipts of the Connecticut Society from 1st of May, 1829, to May 10th, 1830, amounted to \$844.69—797.18 were derived from collections in the churches.

About ten years ago, the Rt. Rev. William Meade of Virginia visited Connecticut, and by his exertions a society auxiliary to the American Colonization Society was formed at Hartford. Its officers were chosen, and circulars extensively distributed for the purpose of diffusing information on the subject. But such was the general apathy, the incredulity of many, and the hostility of some of our most respectable citizens, with regard to the project of colonization, that very little impression was made in its favor. The consequence was, that at the first annual Meeting of the Society, only two of its members attended, and it became extinct.

Some years afterwards, the Rev. R. R. Gurley, the present Secretary of the parent Society, visited Hartford, with a view again to attempt the organization of an auxiliary. Public sentiment was not yet ripe for such a measure, and nothing was done on the part of Mr. Gurley, but to appoint an agent, who soon found that his principal duty consisted only in meeting, and endeavoring to answer objections.

In the mean time the prospects of the Society at Washington were brightening. Local jealousies were subsiding; conflicting prejudices were destroying each other; the germ of the Society's future greatness was actually planted, and had taken root, and sprung up, and borne fruit in its infant colony in Africa, and some of her hapless sons were reposing beneath the shade of its branches, young yet and tender, but growing with a growth, and strengthening with a strength, that afforded a delightful promise of overshadowing, ere long, the whole extent of that neglected and degraded continent.

The Society gained a few friends in Connecticut who employed their influence in its behalf. They endeavoured to remove prejudices, and to show that the objects which the Society had in view, were not sectional, but national; not temporary, but durable as the very existence of our republic, affecting millions yet unborn, and extending their influence into eternity.

Mr. Gurley again visited Connecticut, and through his exertions, the present Society was organized in May, 1827. Since its formation it has

been making a gradual and sure progress, and it now includes among its warmest advocates, not a few of our most intelligent and influential citizens.

A deep interest has been manifested on this subject in our churches. In May 1827, the convention of the Congregational clergy in Connecticut recommended the Society "to the charitable consideration of the Congregational churches in this State, as an institution worthy of the patronage of individuals, of the States, and of the nation." They also approved of collections "on the Sabbath immediately preceding or succeeding the fourth of July annually."

A few years ago, at the New-York annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a resolution was passed, recommending that the preachers composing that body should take up a collection on the fourth of July in aid of the objects of the Society. At the Baptist General Convention in 1826, a deep interest was expressed in the exertions of the Society, and it was recommended to the friends of Africa of that denomination, to take up collections on the fourth of July, in aid of the funds of the Society.

The combined influence of these causes and measures upon the prosperity of the Society, will appear from the Treasurer's report. The receipts during the current year, are double in amount to the whole that was received during the two preceding years.

One Auxiliary Society has been formed in Windham County,—an example which it is earnestly to be hoped will be speedily followed throughout the State.

In connection, too, with these encouraging prospects of the Society, and as forming an important part of the great plan of operation, we would hail as an evidence of the interest which a large body of our Christian brethren are taking in this object, the establishment under the auspices of the Protestant Episcopal Church, of an African Mission'school in Hartford.

This institution expects to send three of its pupils this autumn to Africa; two as missionaries, and one as a catechist and schoolmaster.

An African Education Society was also established at Washington in December last. It has the promise of as many youth from the slave population as it can receive. It has purchased a convenient dwelling at the seat of Government for the accommodation of pupils, and here under the eye of the rulers of our country, and our representatives in Congress, it is to be hoped that the patronage it will obtain, and the influence it will exert, will be commensurate with the extent of the objects which it aims to accomplish.

The progress which the American Colonization Society has made in this State, is small, however, compared with the still greater success that has attended its efforts in other parts of the Union. Every victory which it gains over opposition, affords an additional omen of its final and complete

triumph. Its bitterest enemies are becoming its warmest friends, and like Saul of Tarsus, the more fearlessly do they advocate the cause against which they but lately breathed out threatenings.

This change in public opinion, and the means by which it has been produced, demand the serious consideration of every patriot, philanthropist, and christian. What must be the character and objects of a Society which can produce such a change?

At its commencement it had to encounter obstacles of the most appalling kind.

Doubts, fears, and prejudices assailed it; and these from all sections of our country. The motives of those who originated it, their designs, their plans, their proceedings, were alike the object of ridicule and reproach. This opposition too, strange as it may seem, arose both from the advocates of slavery, and from the friends of emancipation. At the south, it was accused of interfering with the rights of personal property, with the very ownership of the master in his slaves, and with the cruel purpose of exciting among them the spirit of insubordination, revolt, and bloodshed. At the north, it was regarded with a suspicious jealousy, as aiming, covertly, and gradually, but not the less surely, to render the bondage of the negro perpetual, and to entail this curse and reproach of our country, upon posterity, by removing one of the most powerful causes of alarm to the slave holder, the influence of an increasing host of free people of colour.

Its little colony at Liberia was deemed but the baseless fabric of a dis-tempered and misguided enthusiasm, promising no benefits either to our own land or to Africa, and portending nothing but disappointment, death and ruin to the unhappy victims who should be sent there.

But these clouds which cast a momentary gloom over the prospects of the American Colonization Society, are dissipating; the mists of prejudice are retiring; its sun has arisen, "as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race." The prophecy of its late venerable president, Bushrod Washington, whose death we have deeply to deplore, is fast receiving its accomplishment. "Among all the magnificent plans," said he, "carrying on for the improvement and happiness of mankind, in many parts of the world, there is, perhaps, none upon which we may more confidently implore the blessing of heaven, than that in which we are now associated. Whether we consider the grandeur of the subject, or the wide sphere of philanthropy which it embraces; or whether we view the present state of its progress, under the auspices of this Society, and under the obstacles which might have been expected from the cupidity of many, we may discover, in each, a certain pledge, that the same benignant hand which has made these preparatory arrangements, will crown their efforts with success."

Could this kinsman of the illustrious father of his country, occupying, for more than thirty years, a seat in our highest judicial tribunal, exhibit-

ing, on all occasions, the attributes of a sound, comprehensive, and learned mind; fulfilling his arduous duties with "rigid integrity and cloudless honour;" could the pious Finley, whose benevolent soul first conceived the stupendous plan of forming a colony of our free people of colour in Africa; and the saint-like Mills, one of the pioneers of its progress, who, leaving the scene of his indefatigable labours, soon died and found a tomb beneath the ocean-wave; and the self-denying Ashmun, who, from this city ascended to heaven, and whose soul, as if reluctant to leave its beloved sphere of duty, devoted, till the last moment of its departure, all its capacities of thought, of speech, and of action, to the great objects of the Society; could these, and others of their illustrious associates who have sacrificed their lives in its service; could all these have embarked in any other than a holy cause—can the host of its living patrons, among whom we find many of the most distinguished of our citizens, in all parts of the Union; of clergy and laity of various religious denominations; of individuals in public and in private life of different political views; among the inhabitants of States holding slaves and those who do not; can all these have embarked in any other than a righteous and good cause;—yea, a cause, in which Faith raises its eye to the throne of God, and relies on the protection of his Almighty arm; and Patriotism labours, as affording one of the surest means of securing the safety and union of our country; and Philanthropy rejoices, as promising to bury in eternal ruin, the accursed markets of human flesh; and Christianity triumphs, as preparing the way for diffusing the light of the gospel over a whole continent of one hundred millions of our fellow-men, who still "sit in darkness, and in the region and shadow of death."

Are there those among us who yet neglect, even to examine the claims which the American Colonization Society has upon the support of the public? We beg them to inquire, to read, to investigate; to look at facts and results, and not to be satisfied with hypothetical doubts, and surmises, and objections.

Is it said that public opinion can never be roused to such a degree as to furnish the hope of sufficient energy and resources to carry the designs of the Society into effect.

Look at the progress of public opinion since 1816, when the Society was formed. The legislatures of thirteen States have passed resolutions approving the object of the Society, and eleven of these have instructed their Senators and requested their Representatives in Congress, to approve and promote, in the General Government, measures for removing such free persons of colour as are desirous of emigrating to Africa.

In fifteen States, (nine of which are non-slave-holding States,) State Societies have been formed, and besides these, one hundred and fifty-three County and Town Auxiliaries have been reported.

It is said, that the owners of slaves will never be induced to manumit

them in sufficient numbers, to encourage the Society to proceed, and to justify the expenses which it must incur. Look at facts. Applications for a passage to Liberia have recently been made for 600 slaves, and 1000 free people of colour; and information has been received, from a respectable source, that no less than 2000 slaves would be liberated in North Carolina, provided there were reasons to expect their immediate removal. The last year the Colonists at Liberia amounted to 1400,—380 of whom were manumitted slaves, and 350 recaptured Africans.

Gentlemen of the highest respectability from the South, assure us, that there is among the owners of slaves a very extensive and increasing desire to emancipate them. Their patriotism, their humanity, nay their self-interest, prompt to this; but it is not expedient, it is not safe to do it, without being able to remove them. If permitted to remain they sink into vice and indolence and ruin; and contaminate the slave population; and thus render their future emancipation the more difficult and hopeless. Very many of their masters are ready to make them freemen, if they can go where they can live and act as industrious, virtuous freemen ought to do. Liberia is such a place; she stretches out her arms to receive them; twenty or twenty-five dollars will send an emancipated slave to the colony where he will enjoy civil and religious liberty, and rise to the dignity of a man, and have the comforts and privileges of a christian, and become an instrument, in the hands of God, by his example and influence, of diffusing the same blessings among millions of his degraded countrymen. Nothing but funds is wanting. Furnish them, and this mighty moral transformation advances. "Let the North and the South unite in this work of justice and benevolence. Let the South give up, (as they show themselves ready to do,) and let the North not hold back."

The influence which the American Colonization Society has already exerted, and which it is destined still more extensively to exert with regard to our slave population, is beyond our power to estimate. It is not a mere dream of hope, that it may become instrumental in removing entirely this blot upon our national character. Did time permit, the possibility, nay the probability of this might be made manifest. It is only to carry away each year, from among *the fathers and mothers*, a number greater than the annual accession to *this portion* of the whole slave population, and the approach becomes nearer and nearer to the desired result. The nation has abundant resources within itself to approach this in half a century; and what is this in the life-time of our Republic, and what are the efforts that must be made, and the sums expended, compared with those devoted by a miserable band of miscreants to the removal each year of 100,000 of their fellow beings in chains from the coasts and interior of Africa? Cannot we, if we choose to do it, carry 50,000 back again to the land of their fathers?

In doing this, yea long before it can be accomplished, even now, is the American Colonization Society through its infant colony at Liberia, be-

coming the instrument in the hands of God, of diffusing the cheering light of the gospel throughout the whole continent where it has scarcely began to dawn. This consideration alone invests the subject with an importance which surely every friend of the Redeemer will acknowledge and feel. Need we appeal to him who knows the worth of souls, for his prayers and alms in this cause of Jesus Christ!

The day of our national jubilee is at hand. It falls on that sacred day of rest when He burst the bars of the tomb, who came to "bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." He still delights in mercy, and has said "blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." In his name, let us visit those who are in prison.

While enjoying the rich legacy of our forefathers, and commemorating the birth day of our freedom, and cherishing the memory of those who dared to sound in the ears of royalty and proclaim to the world, that "all men are born free and equal," let us not be unmindful of our inconsistency and guilt in permitting two millions of our fellow-men yet to remain in bondage. For guilty as a people we all are. If the South hold these slaves, *the North—the North*, carried on the principal traffic in dragging them originally from their native land, and selling them for "filthy lucre's sake." Let us not deceive ourselves and say to our brethren, "stand off, we are holier than ye." Let recrimination cease. Let repentance be deep and universal. Let the conscience of the nation awake as that of one man. Let us breathe united strength, and as each anniversary of our independence returns, let the whole country, rulers, and ruled, ministers and people, "young men and maidens, old men and children," come up to this work of mercy—nay to the fulfilment of this stern demand of justice; and thus, and thus only may we hope to arrest the anger of that Being whom we have offended, and to whom belongeth vengeance and recompence. "All kings shall fall down before Him; all nations shall serve Him. For He shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper."



Letter

From Captain W. E. Sherman, captain of the Liberia, which carried the colonists to Liberia in January last.

[The author is an experienced, pious master of a ship, well known to many of the most respectable merchants in New York and Philadelphia.]

Philadelphia, May 10, 1830.

MR. EDWARD HALLOWELL.

Dear Sir—As you expressed a wish that I should commit to writing some account of our colony in Africa, for your own in-

formation and that of your friends, I with pleasure comply with your request, and will give you all the information I could obtain in the three weeks I was there last March.

The tract of country purchased by the Colonization Society of the United States, from African kings, with a view of providing an asylum for emancipated slaves, and a residence for any free persons of colour who might be desirous of going thither, is called, as you very well know, by the appropriate name of *Liberia*.

The first settlement and capital of the colony is *Monrovia*, situated in lat. 6. 21, N. and 10, 30, W. long. about a quarter of a mile above the mouth of the river Montserado, and about three quarters of a mile from the point of the cape, bearing the same name. The river St. Paul empties into the sea a short distance from the Montserado. For the first two years, the emigrants lived in small thatched houses, and about five years ago, the first dwelling constructed of timber and boards, was built on the site of the present town, in a forest of trees of towering height, and a thick underwood. Tigers entering this (then) little village, have been shot from the doors. The first settlers had many difficulties to encounter, as is usually the case in establishing a new settlement; but all those difficulties have been happily overcome, and the people are now enjoying the benefits of their persevering industry.

Monrovia, at present, consists of about *ninety dwelling houses*, and *stores*, *two houses for public worship*, and a *court house*.—Many of the dwellings are handsome and convenient, and all of them comfortable. The plot of the town is cleared more than a mile square, elevated about seventy feet above the level of the sea, and contains *seven hundred* inhabitants. The streets are generally one hundred feet wide, and, like those of our good city, intersect each other at right angles. The Colonization Society have an agent and physician there.

The agent is the chief magistrate of the colony, and the physician his assistant. No white people are allowed to reside in the colony for the purpose of trade, or of pursuing any mechanical business, such being intended for the exclusive benefit of the coloured people. The colonial secretary, collector of customs, surveyor, and constables, are appointed by the agent—the vice-

agent, sheriff, treasurer, and all other civil officers are elective, and all the officers except that of the Agent and Physician are filled by coloured people.

The Court holds its sessions on the first Monday in every month; juries are empannelled as with us; and its jurisdiction extends over the whole Colony. The trials are, principally, for larceny, and the criminals generally natives, who commit thefts in the settlements. A few instances of kidnapping have occurred; these depredations were committed on the recaptured Africans. To the honour of the emigrants be it mentioned, that but five of their number have been committed for stealing or misdemeanor since 1827.

Two native kings have put themselves and their subjects (supposed to amount to ten thousand,) under the protection of the Colony, and are ready, should it be thought necessary or expedient by the settlers to put into their hands arms, to make common cause with them in case of hostilities by any of the natives; which, however, is not anticipated, as the most friendly disposition is manifested by all the natives of the country from whom any danger might have been apprehended.

The township of *Caldwell* is about seven miles from Monrovia, on St. Paul's river, and contains a population of five hundred and sixty agriculturalists. The soil is exceedingly fertile, the situation pleasant, and the people satisfied and happy. The emigrants carried out by me, and from whom I received a pleasing and satisfactory account of that part of the country, are located there.

Millsburg is situated twenty-five miles from Monrovia, on the *St. Paul's*, at the head of tide water, where there are never-failing streams, sufficient for one hundred mills; and there is timber enough in the immediate neighbourhood for their employment, if used for the purpose of sawing, for half a century. The town contains two hundred inhabitants.

Bushrod Island, which separates the Montserado from the St. Paul's river, is seven miles in length, three at its extreme breadth, about five miles from Monrovia, and is very fertile; on this island are settled thirty families from the Carolinas. All the above settlers, amounting to at least fifteen hundred, are emigrants from the United States.

On the left bank of Stockton Creek, and near the settlement on Bushrod Island, the recaptured Africans are located; two hundred and fifty of whom were sent out by the government of the United States, and one hundred and fifty taken by the Colonists from the Spanish factories; the Agents of which having bought some of our kidnapped Africans, and refusing to give them up, the Colonists not only took their own people but the slaves they had collected. These four hundred, who are useful agriculturalists, are happily situated and very contented. The settlements of which I have spoken, contain, in the aggregate, nearly two thousand souls, and are in a flourishing condition.

I have been frequently asked, since my return from Liberia, whether there is no danger of the natives breaking in upon the Colonists and destroying them. The best answer I can give to this question, in addition to what I have already said, is a statement of the following facts.

When the Colonists could muster but thirty effective men for defence, and when the forest was in pistol shot of their houses, five thousand of the natives, armed with muskets and other weapons of war, made an attack upon them in three divisions. A part of this little band were surprised by the left division, who took possession of one of their two cannon, a nine pounder, but instead of making use of it, (if indeed they knew how,) for the piece was loaded with grape and round shot, and a lighted match placed near it, the possessors were seen embracing it, powwowing over it, and vociferating, "big gun, big gun," till the other, a four pounder, was brought to bear on them under the direction of Lott Cary, and plied with so much precision and activity, that they retreated. The gun was retaken and turned on the invaders, when they made their escape to the forest. There was some skirmishing from the bush until one of their Gree-gree* men was slain, carried off by our men, and thrown into the river. This event entirely disheartened them, they went off and have from that time never appeared in hostile array against the Colonists. Many of them have traded with the Colony ever since, but they would not acknowledge that they were engaged in the war, till, from an intercourse of some time, they found it would not be remembered to their prejudice.—

* Gree-gree is a kind of prophets or conjurers.

They then related many singular and amusing anecdotes respecting it, and acknowledged the loss of seventy to eighty men killed. If I remember right, the Colonists lost but two or three of their little band.

The means the Colony has for defence, at present, consists of twenty pieces of ordnance, and muskets, &c. for 1000 men, which may be increased from private stores if wanted. In Monrovia there are, Capt. Steward's company of Infantry, Weaver's company of Artillery, and Draper's company of rifle Rangers. In Caldwell, Davis' company of Infantry, and Brown's of Artillery. In Millsburg, White's company of Rifle Rangers. All these are volunteers and in uniform; besides which, a respectable number of militia, not in uniform, and as many of the natives under the protection of the colonial government as it may think proper to arm. These facts will, I think, satisfy any man as to the safety of the Colonists from attacks by the natives.

There is a respectable fort on Cape Montserado, which commands the roadstead, and has protected an English vessel chased in by a pirate. The military are commanded by Major Babbour—the *commander in chief*, is the Society's Agent.

There is much hospitality to be found in Monrovia, and among the inhabitants a greater proportion of moral and religious characters than in this city. I never saw a man intoxicated, nor heard any profane swearing during the three weeks I was among them.

The two houses for religious worship already noticed, are Baptist and Methodist—the Baptists have three and Methodists five preachers, all intelligent coloured men, merchants and traders, residing among them; so that the people have nothing to pay for the support of ministers. Five German Missionaries, some ministers and teachers, reside there, a portion of whom preach at the Methodist Church occasionally.

A trading company has been formed at Monrovia, with a capital of \$4,000, and an agreement entered into that no dividend shall be made until the profits increase the capital to \$20,000. The stock has risen from 50 to 75 dollars per share, in one year.

It has been objected that the climate is very unhealthy—this is true as it respects the whites, but erroneous as respects the

coloured people. Those from the middle and northern states have to undergo what is called a seasoning—that is, they generally take the fever the first month of their residence, but it has rarely proved fatal, since accommodations have been prepared for their reception; those from Georgia, the Carolinas, and the southern parts of Virginia, either escape the fever altogether, or have it very slightly. Deaths occur there, indeed, as in other places, but Doctor Meehlin, the Agent, assured me that the bills of mortality would show a less proportion of deaths, than those of Baltimore, Philadelphia or New York.

I have given you a statement of facts as nearly as I could ascertain them. If there be any errors, they are, I am persuaded, unimportant; for my information has been derived from respectable sources in that country, and my own observation induces me to believe that what I have written is substantially correct.

I will add my own opinion, though I fear you may think it presumptuous. I have no hesitation in saying that I believe Liberia will, in time, become a great nation, and be the means, eventually, of civilizing a great part of Africa, and I should hope the whole of that benighted country. There are already in Monrovia, at least 60 children of native parents, and there would be, if wanted, many more.

Do you ask what kind of government the Liberians would establish, if a great nation and left to themselves; I answer, a republican, unquestionably. The intelligent emigrants having been brought up in this country, and the first laws in operation among them being republican, they would be as well prepared for happiness under such a government, as any people in the world. The adult male inhabitants consider themselves *men*, and know how to enjoy the blessings of a free institution, and will never surrender their liberties, but with their lives. They are now as patriotic Americans as our fore-fathers were loyal subjects of the kings of England. Should they receive no further aid from this country, they will nevertheless, in my opinion, attain to greatness eventually, but if that aid which I think they so justly deserve, should be continued, their progress to this end will be greatly accelerated.

Some are of opinion that Hayti is preferable to Liberia for colored people to emigrate to: a little reflection will, I think,

show the error of this opinion. Hayti is and ever has been in the hands of military despots: the Haytians have never known what rational liberty was, nor ever can. Experience has shown this to be the case. What would people of color from this country gain by going to Hayti?—they would be kept as laborers, “hewers of wood and drawers of water,” to the haughty Haytian. They would have no share in the government, and could never rise to any degree of eminence. If they must have masters, they prefer white to those of their own color: this I have found to be universally their sentiment. The manners and customs of the Haytians are different from those of our people as is their language. The religious and even moral colored people, cannot be happy where the Sabbath is a day of revelry and dissipation, and they considered as heretics, and where the morals of the people are little better than those of the native African.

Many of our citizens seem to think that the object and only object of the Colonization Society, is to get clear of a surplus colored population. I have very little personal acquaintance with any of the members, but I never can attribute a motive so selfish to that Society; nor do I believe there can be found one among them who does not know that the increase by births in this country, is greater than the number they can transport to Liberia in any given year. Their objects then can only be the laudable ones of bettering the condition of an injured people, diminishing slavery in our country, and the civilization of Africa; all which appear to me attainable.

You may say I have given you much extraneous matter, which has but little bearing on the main question—true, but I am writing to a friend, whose goodness I know will pardon this digression, and who can expect no better from an old seaman.

Yours, truly,

W. E. SHERMAN.

Letters from Liberia.

We mentioned in our last number, the return of the Colonial Agent. He came passenger in the Brig *Liberia*, (of Philadelphia) by which vessel letters have been received from several of

the colonists and from the Rev. Mr. Sessing, one of the German Missionaries, with whose character, as a devoted and self-sacrificing disciple of the glorious Saviour, the Christian public are well acquainted. The contents of Mr. Sessing's letter are mournful indeed, and ought to awaken the fervent supplications of the church in behalf of those of the little band of Missionaries who have gone to the shores of Africa, counting not their lives dear for the sake of Christ, and who are yet unfallen in the chosen field of their labours! But shall christians be disheartened because so many who went forth to teach the poor Africans the holy doctrines and precepts of the Gospel have been taken from their work of love to their habitation in Heaven? Let them rather rejoice that even in these days, there are believers in Jesus Christ, ready not only to be bound, but to die for his name, and let the church catch the spirit of these men of God and bear the Gospel even in the face of Death over the territories of the Destroyer. We would indeed learn wisdom from the events of Providence. But no calamities should shake our Faith in the Divine promises that Africa shall be enlightened and the world converted. If white men are not to be the instructors and reformers of Africa, Coloured men are, and the church should qualify them without delay for this work. We are by no means of opinion, however, that white Missionaries should hesitate to engage in efforts so immediately and immensely important.—The following is the principal part of Mr. Sessing's letter.

Mr. Sessing's Letter.

Monrovia, 3d of April, 1830.

MY DEAR REV. FRIEND!

I hope you will excuse me in having not written to you by the Liberia; but the melancholy news of this letter will convince you, that our situation at that time was so critical and our time so taken up by nursing our sick friends, that I was, indeed, at a loss what to write to you. Now, my dear friend, I am better able, and have more leisure to write to you; but prepare to hear of the death of two of our beloved friends—the Rev. John Bulmer, and our dear (and for the Mission so useful) Mr. Rudolf Dietschy are no more. They both died of the country fever. This loss of two so useful brethren was very severe to us, and in the trying hour of sickness and death, we felt our courage sink, and we were led to think in our grief and sorrow, the Lord has no pleasure in our Mission; therefore, he suffers such useful men to die. During this trying time we re-

ceived also news from the Gold Coast, Christiansburg, (Danish Africa) where our Society two years ago began a second Mission. At that time four of our dear brethren were sent to that place by way of Copenhagen in Denmark, where they stayed some time, to acquire the Danish language. The names are: Rev. Messrs. Henke, Salbach, Schmidt and Holzwarth. And now Rev. Mr. Henke writes that his three fellow-labourers finished their course below, last August, 1829. They likewise died of the country fever, and he was left behind alone to weep over the graves of his beloved brethren. This fact, my dear friend, that six out of twelve have died already in the short space of two years, and two others suffered so much from their sickness, that they were advised by the Doctor to leave this country for their cooler home—for next to Mr. Hegele, whom I accompanied home, Mr. Hanft, likewise, left this place at the advice of the Doctor and went up to Sierra Leone, where, if he is not to recover, of which the Doctors gave him hope, he will take his passage home—this fact, I say, led us to give way to such thoughts; but now, praised be God, He has given us rest again; he has strengthened our faith and hope, and directed our minds to submit unto his will, and we can say now with all our hearts, The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord!

I recollect now again, that you, my esteemed friend, before I took leave of you, were rather fearful about our embarking in such a small vessel crowded with so many passengers; and I often thought of your warnings, while on the passage; however, the Lord preserved our lives, and, though we, especially Mrs. Sessing, had suffered much in every respect, it brought us safely and in tolerably good health, to this, to me dear place. We arrived the 17th of January; and, to our great joy and obligations to our heavenly Father, met my dear brother, Rev. A. Kissling, in good health, keeping a free school and preaching occasionally in the Methodist Chapel. The first of February, Mr. Buhner, and a few days afterwards my dear wife, Mrs. Sessing, were attacked by the fever. Both of them soon recovered, but a second attack brought on Mr. Buhner an inflammation of the brain, from which not even the most tender and indefatigable care of Dr. Anderson, who attended to him, could save life. He grew weaker and weaker till he breathed his last the 26th of March. Mrs. Sessing has since had several light attacks of fever and ague; but, the Lord be praised, she is now, though weak, yet in a very good state of health. The 28th of February our two friends, Mr. Dietrich and Trauer, whom we left in America, arrived safely and in good health in the Liberia—and now we were for a little while all joy, talking of and hoping for a favourable progress and success of our Mission, attended by the blessing of God, but soon our joy was turned to mourning and grief. For the 12th of March Mr. Dietrich was seized by the fever, his weak constitution was not able to struggle even with the least severity of it, and thus

exhausted and weakened, he fell asleep the 22d of March. Soon after followed Mr. Bulrer, as above mentioned. Mr. Graner laid down the 20th of March. He had the fever very severely, but his stronger mind enabled him to bear not only a violent fever, but also the death of our two brethren submissively. He is now, though weak, yet in a convalescent state, and we all hope and pray that the Lord would spare his life and by grace make it useful for his service in this country. The Rev. Mr. Kissling left this place a few days ago for a visit to Grand Bassa to renew his health, and especially to have a conversation with King Joe about our settling on his land after the rains. I hope, his desire and ardent wish, to have white men, teachers, to live with him is of a more important kind than is generally the case, as they often want teachers in order to become more knowing, to carry on the horrid slave trade; I am led to think so, by all the news and words (as they say) which I have received from the King since I came here. He is impatient to see me and my friends settled near him. This is good refreshing news, and a great comfort in our present trials; I hope yet, the Lord has a people here, to whom He intends to reveal His love and blessed Gospel. Oh! how willingly would I and my dear brethren suffer and undergo all the hardships, trials, and denials of a country like this, if we only could see and experience that this Mission is begun by the Lord. If it is so, we may rest assured, He will also guide, foster and bless. I think, to this moment, we have seen and felt, that His hand is in it; that He has guided and ruled every circumstance, however small and insignificant; and I believe, therefore, we ought not to give up our faith and confidence in Him, that He will do it in future as He has done it in time past. But we ought to pray more, that the Lord will be gracious unto us, and send out more Labourers into His vineyard. But we ought also more to be prayed for, and hereby I wish to encourage our dear friends in America and Europe to send up supplications and prayers, that the Lord may in mercy remember us and His great work in poor Africa by giving us more faith and hope and zeal to carry on His work, in spite of satan, whose powerful influence we often feel with terror; and of death, which has totally bereaved us of two so beloved friends. And that He may be gracious to send down His Holy Spirit in a full measure into our hearts and also upon that people, to whom we are going to announce the most glad tidings of a Saviour, who takes away the sins of the world. My dear friend and brother, I must conclude my letter, and I do it with that confident hope, that you will sympathise with me and our cause, and do all in your power to forward it, because it is the Lord's. I have only to remark to you in conclusion, that I received by Dr. Mechlin a copy of the resolution of the Board in Washington respecting Trade for the sole benefit of our Mission here. Will you have the kindness to express our most sincere thanks and obligations to the Board for having favoured us so much. I have sent a copy of it to Mr. Blumhardt, and our Society,

no doubt, will make use of this privilege as soon and as far as they think proper. Your faithful friend and brother, T. T. SESSING.

Letter of the Rev. George M. Erskine.

Caldwell, Liberia, April 5, 1839.

REV. AND DEAR SIR: I am now at Caldwell, Western Africa, with my family. I can say I am well pleased with this country; and I believe it is a general feeling among the late emigrants. We have been here one month, in which time we discover something of the customs of the country and productions of the soil; and are fully persuaded that the honest and industrious can, with great ease, secure a comfortable living, accompanied with many of the luxuries of a tropical climate. There is, I think, but little sickness in the Colony this season. We have been here one month, fifty-eight in number, and have had thirteen or fourteen cases of climate fever, two of which were doubtful, but no deaths as yet. But, Sir, the state of things, with regard to schools, is truly lamentable. The only school in the Colony at this time, is a remnant of one at the Cape.—Among the present emigrants, there are seventeen out of forty-eight that can read the Holy Scriptures, leaving thirty-one that cannot. Now, Sir, suppose each company of emigrants to this place bring a like proportion of illiterate persons into the Colony, then what state, think you, it must be in? But again, Sir: I am greatly mistaken if this Colony is not, for several years yet to come, mostly to be peopled with slaves sent out by their present owners, without any education themselves, and without means and very little desire to have their children instructed; and add to the above, that this people is planted in the midst, and are daily conversant with, a people that are not only heathen, but a people extremely partial in favour of their groveling superstition. My dear Sir, this being the case, whether is it probable that they will come over to us, or we go down to them.—To me the latter is the most likely, as it is the very essence of human nature to seek the lowest depth of degradation. Permit me to say, Sir, there must be a great revolution in this Colony before it can have a salutary influence on the surrounding natives; that is, before it can have a moral influence over them. My dear Sir, I am persuaded, the Parent, with all its Auxiliary Societies, has in view not only the good of emigrants, but also the highest good of the heathens, who are so numerous on this Continent. Therefore I humbly pray to Almighty God that he may move upon the minds of the whole combined nation, so as to incline your honours to establish free or public schools, with enlightened teachers, for the advantage of the children whose parents are not able to school them. I am thankful to the great parent of heaven that he has continued to me the same feelings that I had in your country; that is, that I may preach the gospel extensively in Africa. He has brought me into the harvest-field of immortal souls, which is indeed white for labour. And since

he has brought me hither, I hope he will spare my life, and engage my heart and hands in the glorious work; but I submit myself into his hands, to do as he seemeth good.

Your servant,

GEORGE M. ERSKINE.

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The Mohammedans of Africa.

[We are gratified to receive the following Communication from one well acquainted with the customs of the Mohammedans of Africa, and whose knowledge of the Arabic language well qualifies him to write on subjects relating to the character, Literature and Religion of the disciples of the great Impostor.]

Among the nations of Soudan, Islam is the universal religion. It is practised with zeal, by the inhabitants of Bornou, Ghoubert and Sackaton, and its Morabbonts or Priests, are held in great veneration. To the South of the Djolata or Niger, this religion has made but partial advances; and in the region adjacent to, and extending East from Liberia, the nations are pagan.— These simple children of nature, with their religion of the *fetich*, present the most engaging objects to the Christian and the philanthropist. Through them alone, can South Africa ever be civilized: for, if the Mohammedan religion penetrate those countries, it will diffuse its fanaticism and unsocial character. Should the gentle influence of christianity pervade that portion of Africa, civilization with its arts and sciences, comforts physical and social, will be the happy result.

An extract from the book of Abou-l-Hosain, Ahmed-el-Kodouri, upon the Mohammedan law of religious warfare, is here subjoined.

The holy war (*djehad*) is an obligation imposed by command of God. Infidels must be warred against, even if they be not the aggressors. Children, women, and the disabled, shall not be obliged to go upon the holy war.

When Mussulmans invade an Infidel territory, they shall invite the inhabitants to embrace Islamism; should they do this, they are not to be attacked. If they refuse, they shall be invited to pay the *djiziah* (tribute), to which if they consent, they shall enjoy the privileges of Mussulmans. It is permitted to make a second invitation to the Infidels (*Kafirs*) to embrace Islamism; should they persist in refusing, then Mussulmans

shall implore the aid of God against them, attack and destroy them, consume their habitations with fire, lay waste their fields, cut down their trees, and devastate their crops.

Every Infidel who may embrace Islamism, shall have, by his conversion, perfect security of person and property. When Mussulmans conquer a country, the territory and all married women with their children, shall belong to the public treasury.

When the Imam (high priest) has taken possession of an Infidel territory, he shall be permitted to divide it among the conquerors, or to restore it to the inhabitants, under condition of their paying the *Kharadj* (tribute). As to the captives, he may either put them to death, enslave them, or give them their liberty, as tributaries to Mussulmans. ABBERRACHMAN.

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Intelligence.

Our cause in the State of New York, (as indeed throughout most of the country) is daily acquiring strength. The following letter will show the ardent and confident spirit of the friends of our Society in that State.

Letter from a Gentleman in the State of New York, dated June 9, 1830.

The Baptist Theological Seminary in the village of Hamilton, in this county, held their commencement last week, on which occasion I complied with the request of the Officers of the Institution, and presented the claims of the Colonization cause. The motion prevailed, that the friends of the cause in this county should meet yesterday to form a county Society. We met, and we formed the Society unanimously, liberally, and joyfully.

I believe every Presbyterian Society, and almost every Baptist Society in our county, will make collections next 4th July.

You have before this time, no doubt, seen the proceedings of the last meeting of our State Colonization Society. We shall apply to our Legislature for an annuity of 10 or \$20,000, for ten years, to the funds of the American Colonization Society. It is true that we need the assistance of the National treasure to accomplish our object *expedily*, but I still maintain that this object will be accomplished, even though this assistance is withheld from us. God will not leave this object unaccomplished many years longer.

GRATITUDE OF A NATIVE AFRICAN.—Some months since an African, belonging to one of the interior tribes, arrived in this country from Liberia, whither he had gone from Sierra Leone, in the hope of obtaining

employment; but owing to circumstances which it is unnecessary to detail, he was disappointed. In visiting our shores he appears to have been influenced chiefly by motives of curiosity; which, though good in its place, could not satisfy his hunger, or return him to his native country. In his distress he applied to a gentleman in this city, (G. W. Esq.) who, after due investigation, became satisfied of his good character, as well as his necessities, and generously provided him a free passage to Liberia. Immediately on his arrival, he addressed the following letter to his benefactor, which we publish without alteration, except in a few unimportant particulars. It is written in a very decent hand, and shows at least that an African can be grateful.—[*N. Y. Jour. of Com.*

Liberia, (Africa) Feb. 26th, 1830.

Honored Sir—Give me leave to approach you with the most thankful acknowledgement of a grateful heart for the favour you rendered me in New York. It shall be the business of my whole life, to the utmost of my power, to deserve it. My friends in Africa have already been made sensible of your goodness to me—shortly I hope to show you some marks of my gratitude. Next month I shall make up a box of African curiosities for you. Amongst them you will find five shillings, which I shall particularly request you to give the same to Mr. —, of Broadway, money which he loaned me on my way for Philadelphia. He said although he gave it me, yet he did not feel satisfied.* Now I am at home in my own country, with plenty around me, I feel it my duty to return him his due. My faithful prayer for your valuable health and that of your family.

* Meaning, as to the honesty of the African's intentions and his freedom from imposture.—*Eds.*

We particularly invite the attention of our readers, to Francis Devany's Statement, and also to the Letter of Capt. Sherman. Though these may not, in every part, be entirely accurate, we have no doubt of their general correctness. No benevolent man, we are sure, can peruse them without feeling a desire to aid the rising and promising Colony of Liberia.

Resolution of the Board.

At a Meeting of the Board of Managers on the 14th inst. the following Resolution was adopted.

“*Resolved*, That the friends of this Society, throughout the country be informed, that this Board purpose to despatch an expedition, with emigrants to Liberia, early in October; and that it

is therefore important, that the collections taken up on the 4th of July, and the Annual Contributions of Auxiliary Societies, should be remitted at the earliest possible period."



Fourth of July.

We see evidences most cheering that the cause of Africa is to be remembered throughout our Land on this Sacred Day, and that the churches of the Saviour, will to a great extent (we wish there may be no exception) unite in contributions to found deeply and surely on that continent, those free, enlightened, and christian Institutions, which are the glory of our country, and the hope of the world. The *General Assembly* of the Presbyterian Church, has recommended that collections be taken up for the American Colonization Society, on that day in all the Churches under its care. The *Episcopal Convention* of Maryland, has adopted a Resolution to the same effect in relation to the churches over which its influence extends. The Congregational Churches of Connecticut, have been invited by the *General Association* of that state to come forward with their help to this great work of charity. Several *State Colonization Societies* have made their appeals to the Clergy and Congregations in their respective States, and earnestly solicited them to consider on the joyous Anniversary of our Independence, the condition of a people in the midst of us, who are aliens on the soil of their nativity, ignorant and debased amid the light of knowledge, and the richest blessings and holiest hopes of Freedom. They have entreated this Christian Nation to be mindful, when they offer up their thanks and their praises to *Him* who has given us our privileges and distinction, that a plan is developed in His Providence, by the execution of which, we may humbly imitate his goodness, and by conferring happiness, on others, prove the sincerity of our gratitude, our just regard for Liberty, and our love to mankind. And are we not urged by every motive which can influence the heart of humanity or of Piety, to assist in an enterprise designed to bless a people who have been for ages shut out from the common sympathies of mankind, whose injuries and whose miseries none can describe, over whose fair and fertile Land, Avarice, Rapine and Cruelty have lighted the flames of war, and triumphed amid the destruction of peaceful vilages, the

broken hearts and ruined hopes of countless victims. Can any Christian—can any man, who merits the name, withhold his favour from a scheme, which, while it promises immense benefits to our own country, will elevate the afflicted children of Africa among mankind, and finally extend over them civilized law and the better and more glorious authority of the gospel.



Contributions

To the American Colonization Society from 1st May, to 24th June, 1830.

Ladies Col. Society of Fredericksburg and Falmouth, Va. for collections by Rev. Nicholas Patterson, acting as Agent of the Society,	\$100
Mrs. Sarah A. Miller, Treasurer Fredericksburg and Falmouth Female Aux. Society, to be reckoned in the above collections,	10
Ladies' Col Society, Fredericksburg and Falmouth, Va.	224
Rev. J. Allen, of Huntsville, Al. per Hon. John M'Kinley,	50
Richard Yates, Esq. Treasurer New York State Colonization Society, as follows, viz :	
R. Walker, Treasurer Utica Colonization Society, for contributions by the following persons, viz :	
A Female friend to the Society,	\$50
N. G. Winslow, 1st payment of \$50,	5
L. Holton,	3
Th. R. Walker,	3
Interest paid by do.	2 98
New York State Colonization Society,	158 02—
Alexander Sonervall, Esq. Essex co. Va.	14
Silas Wright, Esq. Greenville, Ohio,	10
Rev. Samuel Tait, of Mercer, Pa. received by him from the administrators of Thos. Templeton, Esq. for collection in Presbyterian church, 4th July, 1829.	20
Female Association of Albemarle, Va. the proceeds received at a Fair, per Mrs. Courtenay, Secretary and Treasurer,	500
Collections by Rev. William Winans, Centreville, Miss. viz :	
E. McGhee's subscription, 2d instalment,	100
Rev. James P. Thomas, 1st instalment,	60
Rev. James P. Thomas, 2d do.	20
Rev. James Smylie, for African Repository,	4
Col. John G. Richardson, do.	2
Edmund N. Sale, Esq. do.	2
Priscilla Thompson, donation,	5
David Pipes, Jr. do.	1
T. Scott, do.	50
William Winans, for membership in African Education Society,	1
	<hr/>
	195 50
Deduct exchange paid by him,	97
	<hr/>
	194 53
	<hr/>
<i>Carried forward,</i>	\$1522 53

<i>Brought forward,</i>		\$1322 53
State Col. Society of Connecticut, per S. B. Terry, Esq. Tr.	409	
Liberian Society, Essex co. Va. per James M. Garnett, Esq.	30	
Collections by Josiah F. Polk, Esq. (see p. 128)	595 16	
Deduct the sums reported in Repository for Feb-		
ruary and April,	135 50	— 459 56
Matthew Houston, Natural Bridge, for collection raised by		
High Bridge congregation, Rockbridge co. Va.	8	
Collection by Rev. Dr. N. Marraw, from the congregations		
of Lower West Nottingham and Chestertown, Cecil co. Md.	16	
Proceeds of small shoes sold, by a Lady	75	
Collection by Rev. H. B. Bascom, Agent in Kentucky,	250	
John Gray, Esq. Fredericksburg, Va. his 1st payment of a		
similar sum for 19 years,	100	
Collection by Rev. John Red in his congregation, near Cadiz,		
Ohio, 4th July last, per Hon. C. F. Mercer,	15	
Rev. Asa Cummings, Portland, Maine, for Repository,	10	
Collections by Grove Wright, in New York, viz:		
Rev. Mr. Brayton, per Mr. Waugh,	3 11	
Cato Freeman, a coloured man, Litchfield, Con.	1 50	
Rev. Thomas G. Smith's church, Jarrytown, West		
Chester, N. Y.	7 20	
Rev. Dr. Lewis, Greenwich, Con. by his son, Z.		
Lewis,	20	
John M. Comb, New York City, to make him a Life		
member,	50	
George P. Shipman, of New York City, donation, . . 20	—	81 81
Society of Centre College, Danville, Ky.	10	
Benevolent Society of Rocky congregation, Cabarras co. N. C.	10	
Silas W. Robbins, Esq. Mount Sterling, Ky.	6	
Rev. Mr. Pomeroy, Worthington, Mass. per Hon. Mr. Bates,	10	
Miss A. Smith, Granville co. N. C.	5	
Thos. S. Sanders, Loudon co. Va.	5	
From a Friend,	25	
Thos. H. Grimke, Esq. Charleston, S. C. for Life mem-		
bership,	50	
Do. for Journal, for 5 years,	10	
Do. for Annual membership,	13	— 53
John Pilson, Esq. Locust Grove, Albemarle co. Va.	3	
And the following sums transmitted to Mr. James G. Dunn,		
viz: Aux. Colonization Society, Chestertown, Md.		
by Dr. Peregrine Wroth,	20	
Collection in Gettysburg and Hill congregation, Pa.	15	
Donation by Miss Anna Maria Inglis, Hagerstown,		
Md. the amount of profits on the sale of Memoirs		
of Rev. Samuel J. Mills,	7 50	
Rev. N. H. Cobbs, New London, Va.	1	
D. A. Sherman, Esq. Chittenango, N. Y.	3	
James Scott, Esq. New York City,	1	— 47 50
		<hr/> \$2,843 50 <hr/>

The Rev. H. B. Bascom acknowledges the receipt of the following sums, viz:

At Lexington, Ky. \$38; Winchester, Ky. \$62 25; Mount Sterling, Ky. \$74 75; Sharpsburg, Ky. \$7; Springfield Meeting House, \$56 25; Camp meeting, Montgomery county, Ky. \$37 50; North Middletown, Bourbon county, Ky. \$19; Georgetown, Scott county, Ky. \$56 50.

Monies received by Josiah F. Polk, from August 13, 1829, to April 17, 1830.

Rev. Mr. Finley, collected at public meeting, Bedford, Pa.	\$5	Rev. Mr. Trader, Xenia, Ohio,	50
John Hoffman, Baltimore,	3	George Mix,	50
Samuel Way, Dunning's Creek,	50	John Knox,	50
Mr. Powell, Virginia,	25	George Hardy,	50
Thomas Penrose, sen.	1	Hon. Judge Dunlavy,	50
William Penrose,	50	Rev. Thomas A. Morris,	50
Thomas Bowen,	50	James Graham, Reading, Ohio,	50
James Allison,	50	Hon. Jacob Burnet, Cincinnati,	1
N. Williams, Esq. Baltimore,	50	Rev. D. Root,	50
Wm. Reynolds, a year's subscription to Society,	3	Henry Starr, Esq.	50
<i>Greensburg, Pa.</i>		O. M. Spencer,	50
Cornelius McLean,	1	F. C. Eads,	50
Rev. David Page,	1	Henry B. Funk,	50
Rev. Nicholas P. Hache,	1	Amount of collection at public meeting at 1st Presbyterian church, Cincinnati, Ohio,	20 06
Jacob Steck,	1	Arthur Thome, Augusta, Ky.	12
Hon. John Lobingier,	1	O. M. Spencer, Cincinnati O.	10
Paul Morrow,	1	Messrs Smith & Martin, do.	2
E. N. Clopper,	1	Daniel Gano,	1
Simon Dram,	50	Th. D. Carneal, Covington, Ky.	50
Hon. Richard Coulter,	1	A. D. & S. A. Coombs,	20
Dr. James Postlethwait,	1	John Hawkins, Indianapolis, In.	1
Mr. Horback,	62	O. H. Smith, Connelssville, In.	50
Rev. Francis Herron, D. D. his collection for the Society on 4th July, 1829, Pittsburg, Pa.	50	Dr. J. Overton, Nashville, Ten.	1
Harmony Society, at Economy, through F. Rapp, Esq.	60	Mr. Stoddart, do.	1
Tavern bill,	1	Thos. J. Reed, Esq. do.	1
Elisha Bates, member of Society of Friends, Mt Pleasant, O.	5	Mr. Litton, do.	1
Benjamin Ladd, do.		Sundry members of the Tennessee State Aux. Colonization Society,	101 85
Smithfield, Ohio,	5	Dr. David Sims,	1
Samuel Jones,	3	Treasurer of the Alabama State Aux. Colonization Society,	141
Thomas Thomasson,	1	Tuskaloosa,	
Lemuel Jones,	1	Dr. Williams, Alabama Aux. Col. Society, his 1st annual subscription,	5
Henry Crew, Richmond, Ohio,	3	Treasurer of Tuscombua Aux. Society, Alabama,	34
Thomas Thomasson, sen. St. Clairsville, Ohio,	50	Treasurer of the Florence Aux. Col. Society, Alabama,	22
<i>Mount Pleasant, Ohio.</i>		Treasurer of the Somerville Aux. Col. Society, Tenn.	5
Elisha Bracken,	1	Dr. Christian, Memphis, Tenn.	1
Benjamin B. Hockaday,	50	Mr. Howard, Paris, Tenn. annual subscription,	3
David Steer,	1	Mr. Culp,	1
Dr. Benjamin S. Bates	1	James P. Jett, Shelbyville, Tenn.	1
David Updegraffe	3	Col. Crabb, Winchester, Tenn.	1 50
S. Walker,	3	John Moore, Kingston, Tenn.	50
Jonathan Taylor,	5	A Lady in Kingston,	6 12
Dr. Isaac Parker,	1	Aux. Society at Jonesboro, East Tenn.	10 25
Gen. Isaac Van Horne, Zanesville, Ohio,	6		
Messrs Whipple & Putnam, Putnam, Ohio,	5		
Richard Stillwell, Esq.	2		

☞ We are still obliged to postpone some valuable articles. Our correspondents shall not be forgotten.

